

From: Diane Swan
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 4:00pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to write and express my support of the recent settlement that has been reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. This lawsuit has occupied the attention of the courts and the IT industry for far too long. If the federal government intended to produce consumer benefit with this suit, the matter should have been resolved long ago.

Due to the proposed settlement, Microsoft will be forced to renounce intellectual property rights to parties who feel they need access to Microsoft's products in order to produce their own. Along with that, Microsoft will be forced to use a uniform pricelist that will certainly decrease Microsoft's profitability for years to come. These and many other terms of the settlement more than compensate all the plaintiffs in the suit.

Since the current settlement provides compensation, deserved or no, to all the parties in the suit, the proposed settlement must be made formal. Those who would see the suit reopened for litigation only want to strip Microsoft of more money and market power for their own selfish gain. The Justice Department must see that the proposed settlement becomes formal as soon as legally possible.

Sincerely,

Larry Swan